

Mr. Grason presented a petition of Richard I. Jones, of the city of Annapolis, praying for a modification of the law relating to gates erected across the public roads in Queen-Anne's county; which petition was referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Grason, Turpin, and Wright of Queen Anne's.

Mr. M·Pherson presented a petition of Philip Markley, of Frederick county, praying to be released from imprisonment; having been committed to gaol in consequence of his inability to pay the fine and fees incurred for committing an assault and battery; which petition was referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. M·Pherson, Shriver and Kemp.

Mr. Shriver presented a memorial of sundry citizens of Frederick county, praying for a law authorising and requiring the levy court of said county, to levy, from time to time, a sum or sums of money for the purpose of keeping in repair a certain road therein mentioned; which memorial was referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Shriver, Kemp and M·Pherson. And,

Mr. Eccleston presented a petition from sundry citizens of the town of Cambridge, in Dorchester county, praying for the passage of an additional supplement to the act for the regulation and improvement of said town, to remedy the evils therein complained of; which petition was referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Eccleston, Phelps, and Hardcastle of Dorchester.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, it was Ordered, That the bill entitled, A further supplement to the act, entitled, An act for the recovery of small debts out of court, and to repeal the acts of assembly therein mentioned; passed at November session eighteen hundred and nine, chapter seventy-six, be made the order of the day for Thursday next.

On motion by Mr. Wright of Dorchester, it was Ordered, That the committee on grievances and courts of justice, be directed to inquire into the legality of the practice heretofore and now pursued, as well by the executors and administrators of deceased persons, as by other persons, of dividing large debts, claims, or sums of money, into smaller; and of taking and giving two or more promissory notes, or bills obligatory, for the payment of the same, for the purpose of bringing said debts, claims or sums, by such division, or arrangement, within the jurisdiction of a justice of the peace, with a view to expedite and facilitate the collection thereof; and if the said practice, on enquiry, should be found to have been illegal, to report to this house a bill, providing, that for the future, it shall and may be lawful, in all cases where the parties can agree, for an executor, administrator, or other person or persons, to make such divisions, and to give or take such promissory notes, bills obligatory, or other evidences of debt.